

REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the subject application as amended. In response to the Office Action mailed 11/24/08, Applicant is filing this amendment. Claims 1-8, 11-16 and 18-20 are pending.

In the Office Action, the Examiner has rejected claims 1, 10, 11, 14-17 and 19 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Easley et al. (U.S. Patent 6,259,482; “Easley”) in view of Maruo et al. (U.S. Patent 7,146,007; “Maruo”) and in view of Jaffe (U.S. Patent Application Pub. 2003/0197810); claims 2, 4, 6-8, 12, 18 and 21 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Easley, Maruo and Jaffe, in view of Hanna (U.S. Patent 5,796,842); claims 5 and 13 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Easley, Maruo and Jaffe, in view of Peiffer et al. (U.S. Patent Application Pub. 2003/0131350; “Peiffer”) or Frederiksen (U.S. Patent 4,922,537); claim 20 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Easley, Maruo and Jaffe, in view of Bestler et al. (U.S. Patent 5,638,112; “Bestler”); and claim 3 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Easley, Maruo, Jaffe and Hanna, in view of Bestler. However, the Examiner has noted allowable subject matter in claim 17.

In reply, Applicant has amended independent claims 1, 11 and 19 to claim that the BTSC decoder is also present in the integrated circuit chip and that data is exchanged between an encoder and the BTSC decoder in a digital loopback mode to co-verify the data.

Accordingly, Applicant submits that the amended independent claims 1, 11 and 19 now contain allowable subject matter and distinguish over the various cited combinations of Easley, Maruo, Jaffe, Hanna, Peiffer, Frederiksen and Bestler.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to withdraw the 35 U.S.C. §103(a) rejections and Applicant solicits the Examiner for the allowance of pending claims 1-8, 11-16 and 18-20, as amended.

If there are any fee shortages related to this response, please charge such fee shortages to Deposit Account No. 50-2126.

Respectfully submitted,

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